

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO**

**MINUTES OF THE ELECTORAL AREA 'H' PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY  
REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2015  
10:00 AM  
(Lighthouse Community Centre, Qualicum Bay)**

**ATTENDANCE:** Bill Veenhof, Chair, Director, RDN Board  
David Wiwchar  
Nancy Robertson  
Dagmar Sedel  
Valerie Weismiller  
Barry Ellis

**STAFF:** Wendy Marshall, Manager of Park Services  
Elaine McCulloch, Parks Planner

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Veenhof called the meeting to order at 10:05am.

**ELECTION OF SECRETARY**

No secretary was elected. This item needs to appear on the next meeting's agenda. E. McCulloch will take the minutes for this meeting.

**DELEGATIONS**

**J. Sanders, Lighthouse Slo-Pitch Association**

A Slo-Pitch league was established in 2015 by John Sanders and Nikki Morton. Membership numbers allowed for four co-ed teams, they are expecting six to eight teams for the 2016 season. No field improvements were requested or undertaken prior to or during the 2015 season as it was intended as a trial run. With the program's success, the Association is now requesting some minor upgrades to the facilities. The Association has been in conversation with the Lion's Club who manages the park to request these upgrades however the estimated costs exceed the Lions capacity to provide. Teams paid the league \$100/season to cover umpire costs however there are no plans to put a portion of the membership fees towards facility upgrade costs. Organizers do not want to do facilities management. The Association is requesting the following upgrades for 2016:

1. Repairing the field (4-5 truckloads of gravel screenings) – The Lion's Club has \$1,000 in their budget to do this.
2. Eight benches for players (requesting from RDN)
3. Four garbage cans (requesting from RDN)
4. Garbage pickup for four cans one time a week for approximately 12 weeks (June, July, August). (requesting from RDN)
5. Outfield fences (requesting from RDN)

Additional wish list items include: Dug outs with protective netting and/or roofing above; and removal of the blackberry bushes.

## **MINUTES**

MOVED, N. Robertson SECONDED D. Wiwchar that the minutes of the regular Electoral Area 'H' Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee meeting held May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015 be approved.

CARRIED

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

### **5-Year Planning Review 2015-2019**

The revised planning sheet was presented for POSAC review. The POSAC requested that the Additional Project Suggestions category be updated to remove the Stairs to Qualicum Bay – water accesses development item.

### **Centennial (Dunsmuir) Community Park**

The park open house will be held at the park on Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup> from 5-7pm. The event has been advertised via Facebook (RDN, Bowser Elementary, Lighthouse Community Hall), an ad mail postcard to all residents in Electoral Area H, posters and at the Lighthouse Second Sunday Market and Pancake Breakfast where Nancy Robertson volunteered at a booth.

There was a discussion regarding the organizational details of the event.

## **CORRESPONDANCE / COMMUNICATIONS**

MOVED N. Robertson, SECONDED D. Wiwchar that the following Communications/ Correspondence be received:

M. Puckrin to Director Veenhof, RDN, **RE: Water Access #12**

CARRIED

## **REPORTS**

### **Monthly Update Regional and Community Parks and Trail Projects – April 2015**

### **Monthly Update Regional and Community Parks and Trail Projects – May 2015**

### **Monthly Update Regional and Community Parks and Trail Projects – June – August 2015**

Ms. McCulloch gave a summary of the Regional and Community Parks and Trail Projects reports and answered questions. Nine Water Access signs have been installed as per the 2015 work plan. The unofficial trail signage and posts are available for volunteers to install at the Big Qualicum Hatchery.

MOVED D. Sedel, SECONDED N. Robertson that the reports be received.

CARRIED

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM DELEGATION**

MOVED N. Robertson, SECONDED D. Sedel that staff be directed to initiate efforts to provide two garbage and recycling cans at the Lighthouse Community Park ball fields.

CARRIED

MOVED N. Robertson, SECONDED D. Sedel that garbage pickup service for four garbage cans at the Lighthouse Community Park ball fields during the Slo-pitch season be allocated in the 2016 budget.

CARRIED

The Committee members discussed the request of the Lighthouse Slopitch Association for assistance in improving the ball field facilities at Lighthouse Community Park. The Committee directed the Association to apply for RDN Recreation Grant in Aid funding this fall and to prepare a business plan to clearly outline the facility improvements they are asking for and to present it back at the next POSAC meeting in February 2016.

#### **BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDANCE**

The Committee had a discussion regarding the neighbour's trespass on water access #12. RDN Bylaw to write a letter to MOTI asking for the water access to be made accessible to the public. B. Veenhof to contact M. Puckrin to inform her of the next steps. Staff to confirm with MOTI that the land owner does not have a permit with MOTI for the existing site improvements.

Water Access Development - Phase 2 to be included on the next POSAC meeting agenda for discussion.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **POSAC Members Term Expiry 2015**

N. Robertson and D. Sedel were reminded that their two year POSAC terms are ending in December 2015. They were invited to reapply.

#### **DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**

B. Veenhof provided an update on the trail mapping project. RDN MOTI permitted water access locations can be shown on final trail/park maps.

#### **COMMITTEE ROUND TABLE**

**N. Robertson** – Question: Can there be signs installed at both ends of the Leon Marshall Road trail? Can the gate be removed from the Leon Rd side?

Staff response: Signs have already been ordered, they will be installed by the end of the year. Staff will investigate the ownership of the gate and consider removal if deemed unnecessary.

**B. Ellis** – Question: Has there been any progress on the roadside trail?

Director Response: No progress has happened with MOTI on this project. A new approach is required to advance the project. The topic will also be addressed through the OCP process.

**D. Wiwchar** – Question: How can he be more involved with park projects?

Director Response: The work the Committee has been putting towards the planning of the Centennial (Dunsmuir) Community Park Open House and other initiatives is greatly appreciated. Perhaps if he wants more hands on involvement he could join the local trail building group. Valerie Weismiller is the contact for that group.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED D. Sedel that the meeting be adjourned at 12:10 pm.

**CARRIED**

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Chair